Abolition of mobile Civil Emergency Force

814. SHRI B.P.SINGHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Mobile Civil Emergency Force which had 200 men contingent, trained for rescue in the event of fire, earthquake and also possessed equipments to perform the task has been abolished;

(b) what was the reason for abolishing this force whose services were availed to tackle emergency, disastrous situation of small and medium proportions;

(c) in the light of absence of any such emergency force in States, whether Government intend to raise this force again; if so, by when; and

(d) whether Government intend to suggest to all States to have similar emergency forces for disaster-management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Delhi Mobile Civil Emergency Force was merged with Central Industrial Security Force in the year 1986. The Calcutta Mobile Civil Emergency Force was wound up in the year 1992 due to operational non-viability.

(c) and (d) All the State Governments have been advised to set up specialised search and rescue teams for disaster response.

Reports of NHRC

815. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many reports have been submitted by National Human Rights Commission during last three years;

(b) whether Action Taken Reports have been presented to the Parliament on all reports;

(c) if so, in how many cases action has been initiated including prosecution; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) had submitted so far nine Annual Reports since its inception. Out of which the Annual Reports for the years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96,1996-97,1997-98,1998-99,1999-2000 have been laid in both Houses of Parliament alongwith Action Taken Report. The Annual Report for the year 2000-2001 alongwith Action Taken Report is likely to be laid in the current Session of Parliament. The Annual Report for the year 2001 -2002 has since been received and action taken report is under preparation

Vacant posts in NHRC

816. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Human Rights Commission has not filled up existing vacancies due to which a lot of complaints received by NHRC have been unattended to;

(b) if so, the jefforts made by Government in this regard to fill up the vacancies;

(c) the number of pending cases unattended by NHRC since January, 2001;

(d) how would NHRC propose to resolve the same; and

(e) the details of the vacant posts in all the categories since January, 2001 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) Presently a total number of 29 posts in various categories are vacant in the Commission. Besides, two posts of Members are at present vacant. The Vacancies are caused by those who have left the Commission after completing their term or for want of availability of suitable candidates to fill up the posts. No pending complaint case has, however, remained unattended since January, 2001 on account of the existence of vacancies in the various categories of posts. Action has already been initiated to fill up the vacancies as per the rules.

(e) The details of vacant posts are given in the Statement *(See* below):